

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 0324-02
Bill No.: HB 54
Subject: Political Parties
Type: Original
Date: February 15, 2012

Bill Summary: This proposal changes the required percentage necessary to initiate a recount of the votes cast in an election.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.
This fiscal note contains 5 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

☐ Estimated Total Net Effect on All funds expected to exceed \$100,000 savings or (cost).

☐ Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund expected to exceed \$100,000 (cost).

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Local Government	\$0 or Unknown	\$0 or Unknown	\$0 or Unknown

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials at the **Office of the Secretary of State, Buchanan County** and the **Platte County Board of Election Commission** each assume there is no fiscal impact to their organization from this proposal.

Officials at **Johnson County** assume a recount would cost \$4,000 in staff and judges. However, it is unclear if a recount would ever be necessary.

Officials at the **Kansas City Board of Election Commission** assume it costs the taxpayers in their jurisdiction between \$10,000 - \$15,000 to conduct a recount. They usually have one recount every two years. By reducing the percentage, the number of recounts and the costs should be cut in half.

Officials at the **St. Louis County Board of Election Commission** assume that between 2006 and 2012 they had 16 recounts. If this lower percentage had been in place at that time 37% fewer recounts would have occurred for a savings of \$4,900.

Officials at the following board of election commissions: St. Louis City Board of Election Commission, Clay County Board of Election Commission and the Jackson County Board of Election Commission did not respond to **Oversight's** request for fiscal impact.

Officials at the following counties: Andrew, Audrain, Barry, Bates, Boone, Callaway, Camden, Cape Girardeau, Carroll, Cass, Clay, Cole, Cooper, DeKalb, Franklin, Greene, Holt, Jackson, Jefferson, Knox, Laclede, Lawrence, Lincoln, Marion, Miller, Moniteau, Monroe, Montgomery, New Madrid, Nodaway, Ozark, Perry, Pettis, Phelps, Platte, Pulaski, Scott, St. Charles, St. Louis, St. Francois, Taney, Warren, Wayne and Worth did not respond to **Oversight's** request for fiscal impact.

It is impossible to determine if recount votes would be needed in the future, therefore, **Oversight** will reflect a \$0 or Unknown savings (recounts not needed due to the provisions of this proposal) to local election authorities.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2014 (10 Mo.)	FY 2015	FY 2016
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government

FY 2014
(10 Mo.)

FY 2015

FY 2016

**LOCAL ELECTION AUTHORITY
FUNDS**

Savings - Local Election Authorities - no
longer needing to do a recount because of
change in percentage

\$0 or Unknown

\$0 or Unknown

\$0 or Unknown

**ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON
LOCAL ELECTION AUTHORITY
FUNDS**

\$0 or Unknown

\$0 or Unknown

\$0 or Unknown

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

In a case where a candidate filed or a ballot question was originally filed with the Secretary of State, this proposal changes when the candidate or the person whose position on a ballot question was defeated must be allowed a recount of the votes from a standard requiring the candidate's or the ballot question's defeat by less than 1% of the votes cast to a defeat by less than one-half of 1% of the votes cast.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Buchanan County
Johnson County
Kansas City Board of Election Commission
Office of the Secretary of State
Platte County Board of Election Commission
St. Louis County Board of Election Commission



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